

II. REMARKS

A. Status of the Claims

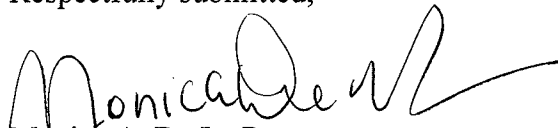
Claims 1-11 were pending in the application at the time of the Restriction Requirement. Claims 8-11 have been withdrawn as being directed to a non-elected invention. Claim 1 has been amended in the Amendment set forth herein. Support for the amendment of claim 1 can be found generally throughout the specification, such as in the claims as originally filed. No new claims have been added, and no claims have been canceled. Therefore, claims 1-7 are currently under consideration in the case.

B. Response to Election Requirement

In response to the Restriction Requirement imposed by the Examiner, Applicants herein elect Group I, drawn to a method of ligation of a fallopian tube of a patient (claims 1-7). The remaining claims have been withdrawn as being directed to a non-elected invention.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (512) 536-5639 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,



Monica A. De La Paz

Reg. No. 54,662

Attorney for Applicants

FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P.
600 Congress Avenue, Suite 2400
Austin, Texas 78701
512.474.5201 (telephone)
512.536.4598 (fax)

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